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About Our Schools

Improving on previous best

Tim Brighouse and Mick Waters

Examines in detail the turbulent years of education policy and practice from the late 1970s to the present day – and sets out what policy-makers and education leaders can do to enable our schools to improve on their previous best.

Through revealing and forthright interviews with 14 secretaries of state – from Kenneth Baker to Michael Gove and Gavin Williamson, together with many other leading figures in education – Tim Brighouse and Mick Waters provide fascinating insights into the various evolutions and revolutions that have taken place in English state education since 1976.

In so doing they highlight key areas for improvement and assess where we should go from here to enable teachers and schools to improve the learning and broaden the horizons of each and every one of their pupils – whatever their talents, challenges, advantages or problems.

"About Our Schools is a masterpiece, and I shall be returning to it again and again." – **Mary Myatt, education writer, speaker and curator of Myatt & Co**



Twice a chief education officer for ten years each in Oxfordshire and Birmingham and leader of the London Challenge, **Tim Brighouse** says he has learned from most of his many mistakes as a teacher, teacher educator and administrator. He believes in the power of teachers and schools to change the world for the better.

A former head teacher, **Mick Waters** has worked in teacher education and at policy levels in both local and national government. Over time he has been asked to work in the UK and abroad to develop revised policy and practice for leadership, teacher education, governance and classroom teaching.

978-178583586-5

£24.99

CAN \$39.95 • US \$34.95

248 x 185mm

680 pages

paperback • ebook

US/CAN due April 2022



Colin Diamond, CBE has worked in education leadership roles for over 40 years, including two director of education posts, and as a senior civil servant in Whitehall. Colin took up post as Professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Birmingham in 2018 and is passionate about inclusion and social justice, always mindful of his childhood in Liverpool.

The Birmingham Book

Lessons in urban education leadership and policy from the Trojan Horse affair

Colin Diamond

Shines a spotlight on what really happened during the Trojan Horse affair, and shares informed insights into how its exposure made Birmingham's schools (and the nation's) better and safer.

The Trojan Horse affair sent shock waves across England's education system in 2014. The affair centred around an anonymous letter that contained instructions on how to take over schools with a majority Muslim population by influencing their governing bodies and undermining head teachers. The authenticity of the letter remains hotly disputed, yet its publication generated huge turbulence – both in Birmingham's schools and communities, and in Parliament and the national news.

Edited by Colin Diamond, *The Birmingham Book* offers fresh perspectives based on unique access to information from within the city, written by respected educationalists who have worked successfully in Birmingham for many years during the Trojan Horse era and since.

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 £18.99
 CAN \$29.95 • US \$24.95
 248 x 185mm
 250 pages (est)
 paperback • ebook
 UK due January 2022
 US/CAN due April 2022

A Head Full of Ethos

A holistic guide to developing and sustaining a positive school culture

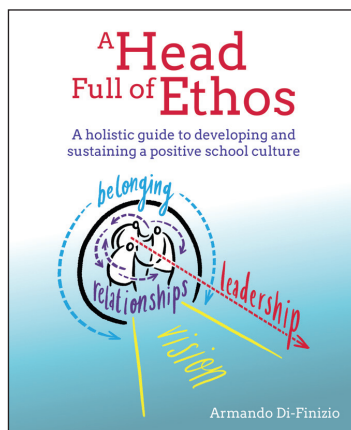
Armando Di-Finizio

A head teacher's insightful account of how to go about developing a shared vision and blending it into a school's culture and day-to-day running.

This thoughtful book examines the first steps towards creating a sustainable school ethos that will become the bedrock on which a school can build in order to inspire its students to flourish and its staff to grow professionally. This requires a deep understanding of the relationship between the school's vision and its underpinning principles, and how this translates into the strategic direction and day-to-day operations of the school.

Armando Di-Finizio weaves his experiences and the lessons he's learned from three decades of successful school leadership into an engaging illustration of the principles which have supported him in his varied settings. In so doing, he explores the key elements that contribute to nurturing a positive school ethos and cultivating a healthy teaching and learning environment.

"Armando shares his experience in a way that will be helpful to anyone who wants to run their school on truly educational principles." – **Mick Waters, Professor of Education, University of Wolverhampton**



Armando Di-Finizio has, over the course of his career, taught in seven schools in deprived areas of London, Bristol and Cardiff. With a guiding conviction that every child can go on to flourish in life, Armando has successfully led three schools from being among the lowest performing in the country to achieving outcomes well above expectations. Armando's innovative practices have been successfully applied in the many schools he has worked with and supported over the years.

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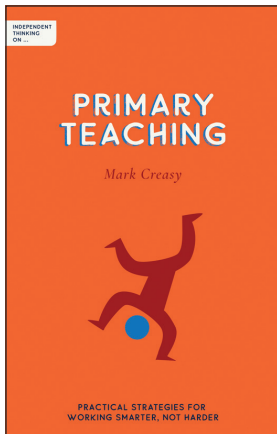
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200 pages (est)

paperback • ebook

UK due January 2022

US/CAN due April 2022



Mark Creasy is an Independent Thinking Associate and experienced primary school teacher. His contemporary and down-to-earth style of teaching has allowed him to view learning as a tool, not a rule, to ensure that his pupils are given the right to an education that suits their needs and maximises their potential for future success. Mark is also the author of *Unhomework*, which challenges the orthodoxies about work outside the classroom.

Independent Thinking on Primary Teaching

Practical strategies for working smarter, not harder

Mark Creasy

Paints a vivid picture of life in a primary school and shares top tips on how to enrich children's learning at no extra cost to teachers' time or the school budget.

Foreword by Ian Gilbert.

Primary school teachers are working harder than ever, and have more and more to do in the finite time they have with their pupils, but Mark Creasy believes it doesn't need to be like this.

With rare experience in both primary and secondary phases and at leadership as well as classroom levels, Mark is ideally placed to comment on what works and what doesn't – and in this book he urges teachers to recognise that there is another way.

Essential reading for primary school teachers.

"I would highly recommend this book to primary teachers everywhere." – **Helen Martin, Executive Director, Gateway Alliance**

978-178135400-1

£9.99

CAN \$17.95 • US \$16.95

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200 pages (est)

paperback • ebook

UK due January 2022

US/CAN due April 2022



Leadership for Sustainability

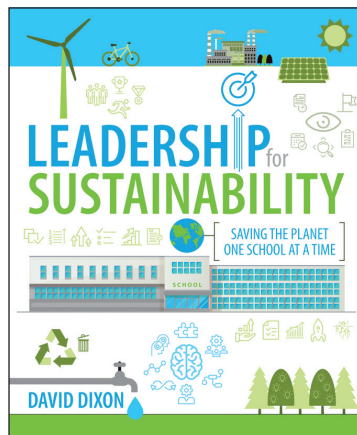
Saving the planet one school at a time

Dr David Dixon

Shares informed insights and a range of practical approaches to help school leaders play their part in making their schools more environmentally friendly and thus better places to learn for all.

Mobilised by the stirring words and protests of Greta Thunberg, young people all over the globe are calling for more action to combat climate change and better protect their futures. Yet they cannot do this alone. They are reliant on people in positions of power to get the necessary changes in motion – and these people include their own school leaders within their own local communities.

In *Leadership for Sustainability*, David Dixon draws on his doctoral research and experience as a cross-phase head teacher to set out how school leaders can embed tried and tested eco-friendly practices within the school setting that can also be central to overall school improvement, including that recognised by inspectors.



Dr David Dixon was a full-time primary teacher for 15 years before becoming a head teacher for the following two decades. In that time, he promoted the twin causes of environmental education and sustainability, which formed the central ethos of his schools. David is now a freelance education consultant, specialising in curriculum and leadership and helping individual schools to link sustainability with school improvement more generally.

978-178135401-8

£18.99

CAN \$29.95 • US \$24.95

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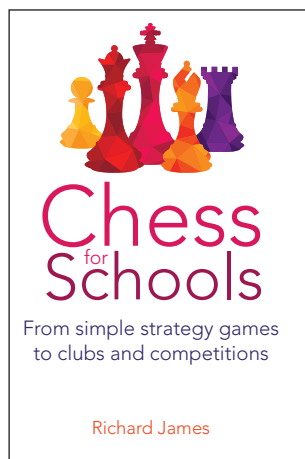
250 pages (est)

paperback • ebook

UK due February 2022

US/CAN due May 2022





Richard James has been teaching and organising chess for children since 1972. Between 1975 and 2006, Richard ran the highly successful Richmond Junior Chess Club, whose members included Luke McShane, Jonathan Rowson and other future grandmasters. He is also the author of *Chess for Kids* and *The Right Way to Teach Chess to Kids*, and has written extensively on chess history and trivia.

Chess for Schools

From simple strategy games to clubs and competitions

Richard James

Presents a new approach to promoting chess in primary schools which, by introducing the concepts through a series of mini games, will enable all children to better understand and enjoy chess.

Chess is a game of extraordinary excitement and beauty, with an impressive literature, history and heritage accumulated over the past thousand years. All children should have the opportunity to learn this wonderful game, and indeed many claim that playing abstract strategy games such as chess provides a wide range of cognitive and social benefits – such as improvements in problem-solving ability and communication skills.

However, Richard James argues that, because of the complexity of chess, most younger children would gain more benefit from simpler chess-based strategy games and incremental learning. In this practical handbook, Richard provides a wide range of games and puzzles appropriate for primary schools based on these principles and explains how teachers can identify children who would benefit from starting young.

An ideal resource for primary and secondary school teachers wanting to introduce their pupils to chess.

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£16.99
CAN \$27.95 • US \$23.95
234 x 156mm
200 pages (est)
paperback • ebook
UK due April 2022
US/CAN due July 2022

BWRT®

Reboot your life with BrainWorking Recursive Therapy

Terence Watts

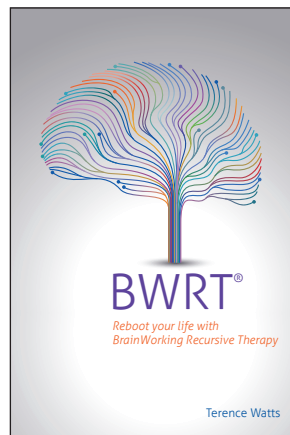
An engaging self-help guide to using BrainWorking Recursive Therapy (BWRT®) – a psychological approach designed to tackle stress, anxiety, phobias and many other of life's challenges, and help make amazing changes.

BWRT is a completely personalised therapy that is customised specifically to the way your brain and mind work. The technique has a strong foundation in science and evolutionary biology and is designed to work directly in the cognitive gap between the reptilian complex responding to a trigger (such as a stressful situation) and the individual becoming aware of what's happening.

This enables the individual to overwrite whatever problem they're experiencing with new information – and in this book Terence Watts details the steps of the procedures to help you achieve this outcome.

Suitable for anyone wanting to rewire their psychological responses to life's challenges.

BrainWorking Recursive Therapy (BWRT) is a registered trademark of Terence Watts.



Terence Watts is a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, and the only psychology related therapist to have been awarded the MCGI (Member of the City & Guilds Institute). Founder of the Essex Institute of Clinical Hypnosis, the Institute of BrainWorking Recursive Therapy and The British BrainWorking Research Society, he is an international lecturer and trainer and runs popular online training seminars.

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£12.99

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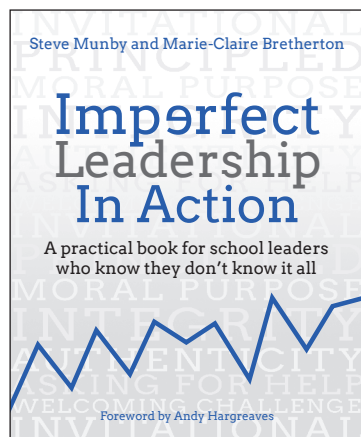
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200 pages (est)

paperback • ebook

UK due April 2022

US/CAN due July 2022



Steve Munby has spent his whole career in education, first as a teacher and then as an adviser and inspector before moving into leadership. Between 2005 and 2017 he was chief executive first of the National College for School Leadership in England and then of Education Development Trust, an international education charity. He is now a self-employed consultant and speaker on leadership and on system reform.

Marie-Claire Bretherton trained as a teacher before becoming a head teacher in Lincolnshire, where she led three very different schools to secure improved outcomes for pupils, including in the most challenging of circumstances. She is now Director of School Improvement for Anthem Schools Trust in England, as well as the Education Director for KYRA.

Imperfect Leadership in Action

A practical book for school leaders who know they don't know it all

Steve Munby and Marie-Claire Bretherton

Filled with engaging exercises and insightful case studies, this fieldbook is designed to help leaders pursue imperfect leadership as something to be celebrated and as a foundation for success.

Foreword by Andy Hargreaves.

In *Imperfect Leadership in Action*, Steve has teamed up with Marie-Claire Bretherton to delve in more detail into a broad range of themes under the umbrella of imperfect leadership. The authors explore the approach's key principles and share a variety of inspiring case studies which give voice to a wide range of experiences from across the education sector.

The central message of this book is that we can all learn to be better leaders if we use our imperfections as a springboard for our leadership development by investing in self-reflection, asking for help, focusing on building teams, and continually learning.

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Conceptual Maths

Teaching 'about' (rather than just 'how to do') mathematics in schools

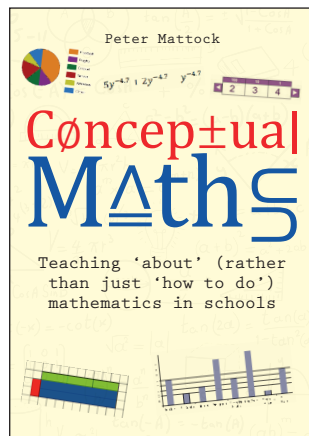
Peter Mattock

Empowers teachers to support students on a coherent journey through school mathematics, showcasing the best models, metaphors and representations along with excellent examples, explanations and tasks that can be used across the curriculum.

Concepts are at the heart of the study of mathematics. They are the ideas that remain constant whenever they are encountered, but which combine and build upon each other to create the mathematical universe. It is the structure of each concept that gives rise to the procedures that are used in calculation and problem-solving – and by learning about these structures, a learner can make sense of how different processes are doing what they do, using them flexibly as need demands.

In *Coceptual Maths*, Peter delves into a broad range of topic areas – covering addition/subtraction, multiplication, division and factors, measures, accuracy, probability, shape and transformation among many others.

Suitable for teachers of maths in primary, secondary and post-16 settings.



Peter Mattock has been teaching maths for over 15 years. He is a specialist leader of education (SLE) and an accredited secondary maths professional development lead, who regularly presents at conferences across the country. Peter also develops teaching for mastery in the secondary school classroom, having been part of the first cohort of specialists trained in mastery approaches by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM).

978-178583599-5

£29.99

CAN \$49.95 • US \$44.95

297 x 210mm

400 pages (est)

paperback • ebook

UK due April 2022

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Chris Dyson is the proud head teacher of Parklands Primary School in Seacroft in Leeds. Chris was brought up in a single-parent household and received free school clothes and free school meals himself as a child, which has meant that the connection between his early life and that of Parklands' pupils is built on understanding. Chris believes that education is the key to making the future brighter, and he is fuelled by a desire to provide his pupils with the best education and opportunities possible.

Parklands

A school built on love

Chris Dyson

A heartwarming account of Parklands School's transformative journey towards becoming a safe, loving environment in which all of its learners can thrive.

In this inspiring book, head teacher Chris Dyson shares his story of how he has steered the school towards the seemingly impossible educational dream of high achievement, personalised support and complete inclusion. He explains how the school setting can be a place where there is love but also hope and relentless ambition for children, and reflects on the steps that he and his staff have put in place to make this a reality for Parklands' pupils.

Chris delves into how this culture and climate of love drives behaviour and decision-making throughout the school – and, as a result, how this nurtures the relationships which underpin everything that happens at Parklands.

Suitable for teachers and school leaders.

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Outside Chance (Don't Doubt the Rainbow 2)

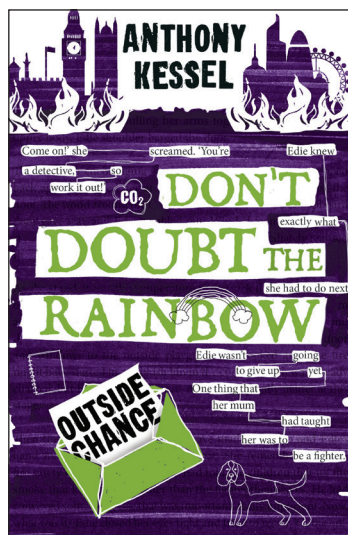
Anthony Kessel

It's been three months since Edie solved her mother's murder and became a supersleuth.

One evening Edie is babysitting for a neighbour, Donna, who has repeatedly caught sight of an estranged friend from overseas. What is troubling Donna, however, is that it seems she's been in the same place at the same time as this friend on a number of occasions over the past few days. At Donna's request, Edie looks into these apparent coincidences, using a combination of investigative work and conversations with her rabbi (who is tutoring Edie in preparation for her bat mitzvah) about the nature of fatalism and determinism.

Outside Chance is the second instalment in Anthony Kessel's four-book Don't Doubt the Rainbow series – a new contemporary detective series with a difference. To solve each mystery, 13-year-old Edie Marble must harness the Three Principles, a new approach to understanding how the mind works that is currently proving invaluable in improving mental health and well-being in children internationally.

Reading age 11+.



Professor Anthony Kessel is a public health physician, academic and author. Since 2019 Anthony has been working in a national role as Clinical Director (National Clinical Policy) at NHS England and NHS Improvement. Anthony is an international authority on public health, a Trustee director of BookTrust, and also advises other charities on global health and mental health.

Also in the series:

The Five Clues
(Don't Doubt the Rainbow 1)



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